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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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18 MAR 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
United States Senator
844 King Street, Room 6209
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Dear Senator Biden:

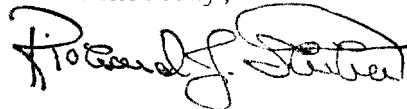
This is in reply to your letters of February 23, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures
cc:

Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300980, 9300981, 9300982,
9300983, 9300985

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Congressional

DUE 3-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/02/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300980	03/02/93	02/23/93	03/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Joseph Biden Jr	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Paul F Levy	inc. comments on PR Docket 92-235

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
DELAWARE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

February 23, 1993

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

PRB
02-235
980

February 14, 1993

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
9th and King Streets
Wilmington DE

Dear Senator Biden:

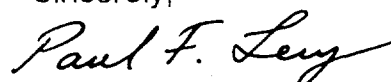
For the past forty years, I have been involved in building and flying radio-controlled (R/C) model airplanes, and plan to continue this valuable and enjoyable hobby for the rest of my life. I am a member and a past-president of the Delaware R/C Modeling Club, which has over one hundred members and is chartered by the national Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), an organization of several hundred thousand fellow modelers. Our club, which flies within the confines of a Delaware State park, goes to great lengths to ensure that our aircraft are safe and that club members are trained in all areas of safe and proper operation of their models. There is now, however, a potential problem which can decrease our ability to fly safely and increase the risk of bodily injury and property damage to our members and to the many bystanders who come to our field to enjoy a day in the park while watching our planes fly.

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission is proposing a rules change (PR Docket 92-235), which will seriously affect our ability to fly safely in our 72-76 MHz band of frequencies. I strongly oppose this change. This new proposal will make the majority of frequencies currently used for R/C models unusable and dangerous for model aircraft operation. I personally have several thousand dollars of recently purchased R/C equipment which will be made unusable by the change. More importantly, most of my models weigh approximately 10 pounds and fly at more than 40 miles per hour, making them potentially dangerous projectiles when caused to go out of control by radio interference generated by the higher-powered mobile units proposed in PR Docket 92-235.

It may be that the FCC considers R/C model aircraft just a hobby and not as important as some of the businesses that will benefit from the proposed changes. Personally, this very same hobby introduced me to electronics and mechanics forty years ago and was, to a large part, responsible in guiding me into a career and to a Ph.D. in Analytical Instrumentation. Many young people are doing the same today, in our club and in other clubs all over the nation. With such a great need in America to become technologically competitive, R/C modeling provides a wonderful opportunity for our youth to learn aeronautics, electronics, mechanics, and hand-eye coordination, all of which are absolutely necessary today for a high-tech work force. I cannot believe that the FCC would consider forgoing this opportunity, just to cater to the needs of people wanting only to talk over the airwaves.

Please do everything in your power to prevent the FCC from carrying out the proposed changes to the 72 to 76 MHz band of frequencies.

Sincerely,



Paul F. Levy, Ph. D.

Congressional

DUR 3-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE. ROOM 222.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

February 23, 1993

PRB
92-235
981

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, DC 20554
Attn: Lauren J. Belvin

Dear Chairman Quello :


I am writing on behalf of John A. Scott, a constituent who has contacted my office for assistance in making a recommendation to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Enclosed is a copy of Mr. Scott's letter.

Mr. Scott, along with many other constituents, is concerned about proposals for new rules issued by the FCC, commonly known as PR Docket 92-235. They are concerned that, if these new rules are adopted, there may be limits placed on those who fly radio-controlled airplanes. Also, they worry that the splitting of existing radio channels may cause interference with their model planes, thus making their hobby dangerous.

My office has contacted the FCC in regard to this matter and the information we received is being forwarded to Mr. Scott and the others. Still, I feel that Mr. Scott's voice has a right to be heard. I am enclosing a copy of his petition for review by you and the FCC during this "open comment" period before the proposal is decided upon.

Please let me know what happens with this proposal as soon as a decision is made. You can direct this information to my staff assistant Rob Skomorucha in my Wilmington office at 844 King Street, Room 6209, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
United States Senator

JRB/tdp
Enclosure

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
9th & King Street
Wilmington, De. 19801

February 14, 1993

**RE: NPRM-PR DOCKET 92-235
REALLOCATION OF FREQUENCIES IN THE 72 & 75 MHZ BAND**

As a member of the Delaware Radio Control Model Airplane Club, I oppose the implementation of this frequency reallocation for the following reasons:

SAFETY

Approximately 10 years ago the Academy of Model Aeronautics worked with the FCC to obtain approximately 50 frequencies for the radio control of model craft. At that time the frequencies for aircraft & land/water models were separated into two segments of the band (72 MHZ for aircraft & 75 MHZ for land/water) for safety reasons. In aircraft, the receiver with the associated antenna is hundreds of feet above ground. At that height, the antenna sees a very large area. Another transmitter on or very close to the same frequency within an approximately 2 mile radius of the model superimposes a second signal that confuses the receiver and will cause the model to crash. These models can weigh up to 50 pounds and must fly fast enough to generate lift, similar to full size aircraft. A model can and unfortunately has caused serious injury & property damage when out of control.

Prior to the increase in number of available frequencies, modelers became frustrated waiting to obtain a frequency control card at a developed model flying site & started flying at uncontrolled locations like school yards, little used roads, full size airports & cemeteries. Most of these sites now have ordinances specifically prohibiting this activity because of the liability risk. Not all of the new frequencies are useable today. Many locations have powerful pager transmitters operating on near by frequencies and locations. These useless frequencies are predictable, since the interfering transmitters are fixed & operate nearly around the clock. The mobile service use of the 72 & 75 MHZ frequencies will make almost 1/2 of the modeling frequencies very hazardous to use because of their high power level, compared to the modeling transmitters, and the unpredictable location of the transmitters.

The radio control portion of the modeling hobby has grown significantly since the implementation of the additional frequencies. Many more modelers are using the controlled flying sites because of the convenience and lack of conflict with other modelers demanding the use of the limited frequencies. If a significant portion of these frequencies are lost to the hobby because of this reallocation, I think the frequency use restrictions at the model flying sites will drive

Congressional

DUR 3-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING ATTACHMENTS

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
DELAWARE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

PRB
92-235
982

February 23, 1993

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

James R. Watson Sr.
39 Meadow Lane
Newark, Delaware 19713
February 11, 1993

Dear Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr.

I am retired from DuPont Company and I get many hours of enjoyment from building and flying radio controlled model airplanes. I am active in our local Delaware R.C. Club. I am also a member of The Academy of Model Aeronautics (A.M.A.) a national organization.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

James R. Watson

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

FCC
92-235
983

February 23, 1993

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, DC 20554
Attn: Lauren J. Belvin

Dear Chairman Quello :

I am writing on behalf of Samuel A. McClellan, a constituent who has contacted my office for assistance in making a recommendation to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Enclosed is a copy of Mr. McClellan's letter.

Mr. McClellan, along with many other constituents, is concerned about proposals for new rules issued by the FCC, commonly known as PR Docket 92-235. They are concerned that, if these new rules are adopted, there may be limits placed on those who fly radio-controlled airplanes. Also, they worry that the splitting of existing radio channels may cause interference with their model planes, thus making their hobby dangerous.

My office has contacted the FCC in regard to this matter and the information we received is being forwarded to Mr. McClellan and the others. Still, I feel that Mr. McClellan's voice has a right to be heard. I am enclosing a copy of his petition for review by you and the FCC during this "open comment" period before the proposal is decided upon.

Please let me know what happens with this proposal as soon as a decision is made. You can direct this information to my staff assistant Rob Skomorucha in my Wilmington office at 844 King Street, Room 6209, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Circulate

February 1, 1993

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.
9th. & King St.
Wilmington, De. 19801

I am one of hundreds of thousands of men and women who fly radio controlled model airplanes as a hobby. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-325. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and user inability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio controlled frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio controlled frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to model airplane frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the fifty frequencies presently available for control of model airplanes, only nineteen of these will be left if the new rule is adopted.

When I fly a model plane under radio control I go to great lengths to assure the safety of operators and bystanders as well as the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished, as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly reduced.

I do not think it is appropriate of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of citizens who use these assigned frequencies for relaxation and enjoyment. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models both and in time and in money. Not only does the hobby provide many hours of enjoyment to people like myself, but it contributes to the advancement of the commercial aviation industry. In addition, most modelers belong to the Academy of Model Aeronautics and organized local clubs which support civic activities, school programs, and youth groups. The club that I belong to, Delaware R/C Club, has over 100 members. We fly at an airfield that we maintain within Lums Pond State Park.

Please help me to continue the safe enjoyment of my hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McMillan Jr.

Congressional

DATE 03-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/02/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300985	03/02/93	02/23/93	03/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Joseph Biden Jr	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Paul R Kramer	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
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PRB/600
33-93

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/02/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the attention of Rob Skomorucha in the
Wilmington, DE office.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

February 23, 1993

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, DC 20554
Attn: Lauren J. Belvin

Dear Chairman Quello :

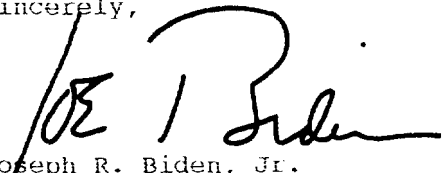
I am writing on behalf of Paul R. Kramer, a constituent who has contacted my office for assistance in making a recommendation to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Enclosed is a copy of Mr. Kramer's letter.

Mr. Kramer, along with many other constituents, is concerned about proposals for new rules issued by the FCC, commonly known as PR Docket 92-235. They are concerned that, if these new rules are adopted, there may be limits placed on those who fly radio-controlled airplanes. Also, they worry that the splitting of existing radio channels may cause interference with their model planes, thus making their hobby dangerous.

My office has contacted the FCC in regard to this matter and the information we received is being forwarded to Mr. Kramer and the others. Still, I feel that Mr. Kramer's voice has a right to be heard. I am enclosing a copy of his petition for review by you and the FCC during this "open comment" period before the proposal is decided upon.

Please let me know what happens with this proposal as soon as a decision is made. You can direct this information to my staff assistant Rob Skomorucha in my Wilmington office at 844 King Street, Room 6209, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
United States Senator

JRB/tdp
Enclosure

PR
92-235
985

Paul Kramer
405 Virginia Dr
Middletown, DE 19709

February 1, 1993

The Honorable Joesph R. Biden Jr.
9th. & King St.
Wilmington, De. 19801

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Please help me to continue the safe enjoyment of my hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Kramer

Don't let us down!!